Amendments to the Claims:

grooves; and

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1 (Currently Amended) A sheet shutter device in which comprising: fitting pieces that are provided at both a right-and-left side portions of a sheetshaped shutter curtain so as to be spaced from one another at a predetermined pitch-distance in a vertical direction and made to run while engagedly fitted in right-and-left rail grooves of guide rails provided at both right-and-left side portions of an opening portion, thereby opening/closing the opening portion. wherein the rail grooves are designed so that the fitting pieces eome off-detach from the rail grooves under an excessive load imposed on the shutter eurtain, wherein an curtain; a posture holding bar that is provided horizontally to at least the lower end portion of the shutter eurtain curtain, such that a width of the posture holding bar is shorter than a width of the shutter curtain, so as to be spaced from the fitting pieces in the curtain width direction, and at the upper side of each of the rail grooves are provided that the shutter curtain is spaced between the fitting pieces and end portions of the posture holding bar. wherein shutter curtain portions that are fitted in the rail grooves of the guide rails are set to be right-and-left end portions of the shutter curtain where the posture holding bar cannot reach; a first guide body for guiding the posture holding bar to an opposing position to that is provided at a upper side of each of the right-and-left rail grooves and are provided for guiding the posture holding bar in a horizontal line between the right-and-left rails

a second guide body that is provided for guiding the fitting piece at the lower end portion of the shutter curtain toward each of the rail grooves in conformity with a timing at which the posture holding bar is guided to the opposing position to the rail groove by the first guide body are provided at the upper side of each of the rail grooves-right-and-left portions of the shutter curtain, where the posture holding bar cannot reach toward an upper direction in the rail groove,

wherein when the fitting pieces detach from the rail grooves, fitting pieces that are positioned below the posture holding bar are guided by the second guide body so as to be moved upward in the rail grooves, based on that the posture holding bar is guided by the first guide body in a horizontal line between the right-and-left rail grooves in the process of opening/closing operation of the shutter curtain.

- (Currently Amended) The sheet shutter device according to claim 1, wherein
 the second guide body is formed to be longer in the a vertical direction than the pitch
 predetermined distance of the fitting pieces.
- (Currently Amended) The sheet shutter device according to claim 1, wherein a
 third guide body for guiding the fitting pieces toward each of the rail grooves is provided
 between the upper sideend portion of each of the rail grooves and the first guide body.
- 4. (Currently Amended) The sheet shutter device according to claim 3, wherein the third guide body is provided with a freely deformable piece which can be deformed in a front-and-rear directions corresponding to a direction perpendicular to athe curtain face.
- 5. (Currently Amended) The sheet shutter device according to claim 1, wherein the first guide body has a pair of guide faces-pieces and each of the guide pieces has a top and bottom guide face that is continuous with a guideway; and for guiding the posture holding bar to the opposing position to the rail groove, and

wherein each guideways has an which are inclined-shaped to create a gap, and to provide for guiding of guide the posture holding bar to a horizontal position between the right-and-left rail grooves, the guide face are formed on the guide face at the upper and lower sides.

- 6. (Currently Amended) The sheet shutter device according to claim 3, wherein thea freely deformable piece of the third guide body is formed so as to be located in thean epposing gap between the guideways that are continuous with the bottom guide face of each of the guide piecesat the lower side of the first guide body.
- 7. (Previously Presented) The sheet shutter device according to claim 1, wherein the first and second guide bodies are integrally formed with each other.
- 8. (Currently Amended) The sheet shutter device according to claim 5, wherein a step face for regulating the <u>horizontal</u> position in <u>athe-right-and-left</u> direction of the posture holding bar is formed between the guide <u>piecesface</u> of the first guide body and a fitting piece guide portion which is formed in the second guide body and guides the fitting pieces toward the rail groove.
- 9. (Original) The sheet shutter device according to claim 8, wherein a curtain guide face for guiding both right and left side edge portions of the shutter curtain is formed in the fitting piece guide portion of the second guide body.
- 10. (Currently Amended) The sheet shutter device according to claim 1, wherein the guide rail comprises a support rail fixed to each of both sides of the opening portion, a rail body which is engaged with the fitting pieces and supported so as to be freely displaced to anthe inside of the opening portion with respect to the support rail, and an urging means for urging outwardly the rail body displaced to the inside of the opening portion in connection with a load imposed on the shutter curtain, the urging means comprises an elongated elastic member disposed along anthe outer surface of the support rail, an elongated receiving plate

member applied to anthe outer surface of the elastic member and a joint member provided between the rail body and the receiving plate member so as not to come off, and an elastic deforming force of the elastic member acts on the rail body via the receiving plate member.

- 11. (Currently Amended) The sheet shutter device according to claim 2, wherein a third guide body for guiding the fitting pieces toward each of the rail grooves is provided between the upper sideend portion of each of the rail grooves and the first guide body.
- 12. (Currently Amended) The sheet shutter device according to claim 11, wherein the third guide body is provided with a freely deformable piece which can be deformed in the front-and-rear directions corresponding to a direction perpendicular to the curtain face.
- 13. (Currently Amended) The sheet shutter device according to claim 2, wherein the first guide body has athe pair of guide piecesfaces and each of the guide pieces has the top and bottom guide face that is continuous with the guideway; for guiding the posture holding bar to the opposing position to the rail groove, and

wherein each guideways has the which are inclined-shaped to create the gap, and to provide for guiding of guide the posture holding bar to the horizontal position between the right-and-left rail grooves the guide face are formed on the guide face at the upper and lower sides.

14. (Currently Amended) The sheet shutter device according to claim 4, wherein the first guide body has athe pair of guide piecesfaces and each of the guide pieces has the top and bottom guide face that is continuous with the guideway; for guiding the posture holding bar to the opposing position to the rail groove, and

wherein each guideways has the which are inclined-shaped to create the gap, and to provide for guiding of guide the posture holding bar to the horizontal position between the right-and-left rail grooves the guide face are formed on the guide face at the upper and lower sides.

- 15. (Currently Amended) The sheet shutter device according to claim 4, wherein the freely deformable piece of the third guide body is formed so as to be located in an opposingthe gap between the guideways at the lower side of the first guide bodythat are continuous with the bottom face of each of the guide pieces.
- 16. (Previously Present) The sheet shutter device according to claim 4, wherein the first and second guide bodies are integrally formed with each other.
- 17. (Previously Presented) The sheet shutter device according to claim 15, wherein the first and second guide bodies are integrally formed with each other.
- 18. (Currently Amended) The sheet shutter device according to claim 4, wherein the guide rail comprises a support rail fixed to each of both sides of the opening portion, a rail body which is engaged with the fitting pieces and supported so as to be freely displaced to the inside of <u>an</u> the opening portion with respect to the support rail, and <u>an</u> urging means for urging outwardly the rail body displaced to the inside of the opening portion in connection with a load imposed on the shutter curtain, the urging means comprises an elongated elastic member disposed along <u>an</u>the outer surface of the support rail, an elongated receiving plate member applied to <u>an</u>the outer surface of the elastic member and a joint member provided between the rail body and the receiving plate member so as not to come off, and an elastic deforming force of the elastic member acts on the rail body via the receiving plate member.
- 19. (Currently Amended) The sheet shutter device according to claim 9, wherein the guide rail comprises a support rail fixed to each of both sides of the opening portion, a rail body which is engaged with the fitting pieces and supported so as to be freely displaced to the inside of anthe opening portion with respect to the support rail, and an urging means for urging outwardly the rail body displaced to the inside of the opening portion in connection with a load imposed on the shutter curtain, the urging means comprises an elongated elastic member disposed along anthe outer surface of the support rail, an elongated receiving plate

member applied to anthe outer surface of the elastic member and a joint member provided between the rail body and the receiving plate member so as not to come off, and an elastic deforming force of the elastic member acts on the rail body via the receiving plate member.

20. (Currently Amended) The sheet shutter device according to claim 16, wherein the guide rail comprises a support rail fixed to each of both sides of the opening portion, a rail body which is engaged with the fitting pieces and supported so as to be freely displaced to the inside of anthe opening portion with respect to the support rail, and an urging means for urging outwardly the rail body displaced to the inside of the opening portion in connection with a load imposed on the shutter curtain, the urging means comprises an elongated elastic member disposed along anthe outer surface of the support rail, an elongated receiving plate member applied to anthe outer surface of the elastic member and a joint member provided between the rail body and the receiving plate member so as not to come off, and an elastic deforming force of the elastic member acts on the rail body via the receiving plate member.